

The Amel  
2/A  
12274  
Dr**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: William FORD et al.

U.S. Serial No.: Filed Concurrently Herewith

Title of Invention: PROCESS FOR IMMOBILIZATION OF NUCLEIC  
ACID MOLECULES ON A SUBSTRATE

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

**EXPRESS MAIL**

Mailing Label Number: EV001420429US

Date of Deposit: November 19, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Office of Initial Patent Examination, 2900 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202

Charles Johnson  
(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

Charles Johnson  
(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application (35 U.S.C. 111)  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 3-5, 7-11 and 13 as follows:

3. (Amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that the nucleic acid is double-stranded or single-stranded.

a  
SUB  
B5